

H. B. 119

CHAPTER 70

AN ACT TO RESTRUCTURE AND RENAME THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AS THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIME CONTROL AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

—CRIME AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT CREATED AND CONSTITUTED

Section 1. A new Article 5A is added to G.S. Chapter 143B to read as follows:

“ARTICLE 5A.

“DEPARTMENT OF CRIME CONTROL AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

“PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

“§ 143B-256. *Department of Crime Control and Public Safety—creation.*—There is hereby created and constituted a department to be known as the ‘Department of Crime Control and Public Safety’, with the organization, powers, and duties defined in Article 1 of this Chapter, except as modified in this Article.

“§ 143B-256.1. *Department of Crime Control and Public Safety—duties.*—It shall be the duty of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety to provide assigned law enforcement and emergency services to protect the public against crime and against natural and man-made disasters; to plan and direct a coordinated effort by the law enforcement agencies of State government and to insure maximum cooperation between State and local law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime; to prepare annually a State plan for the State’s criminal justice system; to serve as the State’s chief coordinating agency to control crime, to insure the safety of the public and to insure an effective and efficient State criminal justice system; to have charge of investigations of criminal matters particularly set forth in this Article and of such other crimes and areas of concern in the criminal justice system as the Governor may direct; to regularly patrol the highways of the State and enforce all laws and regulations respecting travel and the use of vehicles upon the highways of the State and all laws for the protection of the highways of the State; to provide national guard troops trained by the State to federal standards; to insure the preparation, coordination, and currency of military and civil preparedness plans and the effective conduct of emergency operations by all participating agencies to sustain life, and prevent, minimize, or remedy injury to persons and damage to property resulting from disasters caused by enemy attack or other hostile actions or from disasters due to natural or man-made causes; and to develop a plan for a coordinated and integrated electronic communications system for State government and cooperating local agencies, including coordination and integration of existing electronic communications systems.

“§ 143B-256.2. *Department of Crime Control and Public Safety—functions.*—(a) All functions, powers, duties and obligations heretofore vested in the following subunits of the following departments are hereby transferred to and vested in the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety:

- (1) The National Guard, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs;
- (2) Civil Preparedness, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs;
- (3) State Civil Air Patrol, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs;